

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 13677 101812Z

47

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 AF-10 ARA 16 EA-11 NEA-10

RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19

DRC-01 /184 W

----- 087157

P R 101630Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2263

INFO USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 13677

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNGA, ICRC, PARM, IT

SUBJECT: UNGA -- LEGAL COMMITTEE - HUMAN RIGHTS IN ARMED CONFLICTS

REF: STATE 240859

1. ON DECEMBER 10 WE DISCUSSED REFTEL WITH RESPONSIBLE ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL, URGING THAT ITALIANS STICK TO THEIR NEGATIVE VOTE IN PLENARY CONSISTENT WITH THEIR NEGATIVE VOTE IN SIXTH COMMITTEE AGAINST RESOLUTION RE "BASIC PRINCIPLES OF LEGAL STATUS OF COMBATANTS STRUGGLING AGAINST COLONIAL AND ALIEN DOMINATION AND RACIST REGIMES." WE TOLD OFFICIAL WE HAD REPORT THAT ITALIANS CONSIDERING SWITCHING FROM NEGATIVE VOTE TO ABSTENTION WHEN RESOLUTION CONSIDERED IN PLENARY.

2. OFFICIAL RESPONDED THAT ITALIAN REP HAD VOTED AGAINST
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 13677 101812Z

RESOLUTION IN SIXTH COMMITTEE ON PRECISE INSTRUCTIONS FROM

FOREIGN MINISTRY. HE SAID ITALIANS WERE FIRMLY OPPOSED TO RESOLUTION, AND HE SAW NO REPEAT NO REASON FOR THEM TO SHIFT STANCE AT PLENARY. HE ASSERTED THAT AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE ITALIANS DO NOT REPEAT NOT FAVOR CHANGING VOTE BETWEEN COMMITTEE AND PLENARY CONSIDERATION. HE ASSERTED THAT ITALIAN MISSION IN NEW YORK HAD AS YET MADE NO REPEAT NO SUGGESTION THAT ITALY SWITCH FROM NEGATIVE VOTE TO ABSTENTION. HE STATED THAT IF SUCH SUGGESTION WERE MADE FROM NEW YORK, MINISTRY OFFICE LEVEL RECOMMENDATION WOULD BE THAT GOI MAINTAIN NEGATIVE VOTE.

3. OFFICIAL ASKED WHETHER OTHERS BESIDES ITALIANS APPEARED TO BE WAVERING. WE ANSWERED THAT BELGIUM AND FRG REPORTEDLY CONSIDERING A SWITCH. OFFICIAL THEN SAID THAT ITALIAN POSITION, AS USUAL, WOULD BE CONDITIONED BY ATTITUDE OF EC NINE AND OTHER WESTERN* COUNTRIES; HE VOLUNTEERED THAT UK EMBASSY REP WAS COMING IN ON THE SUBJECT LATER TODAY. IN THIS CONTEXT, WE OBSERVED THAT IT IMPORTANT FOR ITALY TO MAINTAIN ITS NEGATIVE VOTE TO FORESTALL POSSIBLE SNOWBALL EFFECT AMONG EUROPEANS, AND OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES, SHOULD ITALY DECIDE TO SWITCH TO ABSTENTION AS PART OF EC OR WESTERN COUNTRY CONSENSUS. OFFICIAL ACKNOWLEDGED POINT, AND SAID HE WOULD KEEP US INFORMED IF A SWITCH TO ABSTENTION WAS RECOMMENDED BY ITALIAN MISSION IN NEW YORK.

4. DURING COURSE OF DISCUSSION, OFFICIAL OBSERVED THAT ITALIAN OPPOSITION TO RESOLUTION WAS BASED NOT REPEAT NOT SO MUCH ON ITS SUBSTANCE, BUT ON FACT THAT IT WAS ATTEMPT TO SET FORTH PROVISIONS WHICH PROPERLY PREROGATIVE OF FORTHCOMING DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE OF LAWS OF WAR, AND NOT REPEAT NOT OF GA. VOLPE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, PARAMILITARY FORCES, UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE, UNGA RESOLUTIONS, VOTING ABSTENTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: hilburpw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973ROME13677
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731234/aaaaayvw.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION L
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 240859
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hilburpw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18-Sep-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <01-Oct-2001 by hilburpw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNGA -- LEGAL COMMITTEE - HUMAN RIGHTS IN ARMED CONFLICTS
TAGS: PARM, IT, UNGA, ICRC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005